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Naval Schools in Ustka

- 1. All Navy schools were under the command of the Commandant of the Cadre, Headquarters Office, in Gdynia. The Commandant of the Cadre (Komendant Kadry) was Commander DABROWSKI, who was frequently referred to as Commander KUBA.
- 2. The Schools in Ustka N 54-35, E 16-517 were divided into the following main departments:
 - a. Recruit Training for Officer Candidates. All officer candidates were obliged to complete the recruit training course here, at the completion of which they were transferred to the Naval Officers' Candidate School at Oksywie N 54-33, E 18-33 for their training.
 - b. Recruit Training for Enlisted Men
 - c. School for Sea Specialists
 - d. School for Non-Commissioned Officers of the Cadre (Podoficerska Szkola Kadrowa). They were given combat training. They were never referred to as Naval Infantry (Morska Piechota) but as members of the Guard Company (Kompania Wartownicza).

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- 3. Army Schools attended by naval personnel were the Army Ordnance School in Krakow, where they received small arms training, and the Army Quartermaster School in Poznan, where naval officers received a one-year quartermaster training course.
- 4. The period of enlistment in the Polish Navy was three years. All of the Navy recruits, whether volunteers or draftees, received two months basic training as seamen (Marynarz) at the Recruit Training Center in Ustka. This basic training usually took place during the fall of every year, or every other year, at which time, twenty companies, with 120 to 140 men each, were stationed there.
- 5. At the end of the two-month basic training period a final examination was given. Those who failed in the final examination were at once transferred to the Guard Company (Kompania Wartownicza). Their duties were to stand guard at offices, barracks, kitchens, etc.
- 6. The greater part of the recruits graduated as senior seamen (Starszy Marynarz). Those who graduated as senior seamen were transferred to the fleet where they received a three-months training course aboard ship. After this training, the senior seamen met again at Ustka where they formed companies of students at the Sea Specialists'School. There were 15 companies when I was there.
- 7. Courses in the Sea Specialists'School lasted from six to nine months. Courses for electricians, steersmen, machinist mates, signalmen, etc., were offered. Those who proved unfit during the courses, or who failed the final examinations, were transferred to the Guard Company. All others were promoted to either of the lower two petty officer ranks (petty officer second class or petty officer third class). Some became instructors in their particular specialties, while most were sent to various shore and fleet installations for further service. Petty officers of these two ranks could later be promoted to petty officer first class or to chief petty officer. A man with a specialist rating could eventually be eligible for Officers' Candidate School. About 10% of the naval officers were recruited from sailors who had graduated as senior seamen and who were found qualified for naval officers' training.

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courses was probably on the basis of past civilian training in these specialties. There were about 70 men who took the electricians' course.

9. Lectures in the various courses started immediately. The first two-month period was known as the Period for Proof of Ability. A comprehensive examination was given at the end of this period and those who failed (about 10%) were transferred to the Guard Company.

10. The following is a list of some

- a. General theory of electrical technology
- b. Theory of electrical technology aboard ship
- c. Electric machines
- d. Physics
- e. Chemistry battery acids, and the character of such metals as zinc, copper, and iron
- f. Mathematics algebra and geometry
- g. Polish language

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- h. Diesel and gasoline engines
- i. Naval regulations
- j. Radio techniques
- k. Administrative work, including simple bookkeeping
- 1. Political lectures
- m. Military training, such as manual of arms and drill
- n. Short cruises aboard ship for sea training
- o. Fire-fighting foam type extinguishers and water pumps
- p. General course dealing with lines (rope), knots, etc.
- g. First-aid

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from 0800 to 1700 hours. About two hours each week were spent in physical training.

- 12. At the end of the first two-month period, we went more extensively into theory and practice. We worked on generators and storage batteries. In the practice workshop, we learned how to dismantle and reassemble electrical engines. On our training cruises aboard ship, we put our specialties into practice. In my case, aboard ship, I worked with all the electrical apparatus, including such electrical measuring instruments as voltmeters, ammeters, and instruments for locating electrical breakdowns. We also had practice alerts.
- 13. In the Radio Technical Course we studied schematic diagrams of the RSBF (the Soviet transmitter) and the A7A (the Soviet receiver-transmitter) which was a transmitter that operated with the aid of a microphone. We were given a superficial treatise on radio tubes used in this apparatus but later, while in Kolobrzeg, the radio tubes used in the Bukta transmitter were classified secret.

Naval School in Oksywie

- 14. I heard there was a Naval Officers School for reserve and regular personnel located in Oksywie /N 54-33, E 18-33/. Officer recruit training was first taken at the Officer Recruit Training School in Ustka. I do not know the length of the officer recruit training. After their completion of recruit training in Ustka, candidates were transferred to the Officers' School in Oksywie. At the Oksywie Officers' School, there were usually three companies of regular officer candidates who received a three-year land-sea training course. On training cruises the ships were never out longer than 24 hours. The reserve officer candidates, (at that time usually one company of these reserve officers) received a one-year land-sea training course.
- 15. In Oksywie there was a Petty Officers' School for petty officers who were regular members of the Polish Navy. The course lasted eight months and was designed to improve their particular skills. At that time there was one Company of Petty Officers. Petty officers received their ratings according to their grades at the end of the course. The highest rating achieved by a petty officer was chief petty officer (Starszy Bosman). I do not know the lowest rating received.

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- Of the courses given at the Petty Officers' school in Oksywie, I 16. remember the following:
 - a. Course in secret mail and documents (Kurs Prowadzenia Kancelarji Tajnej).
 - b. Course in unclassified mail and documents (Kurs Prowadzenia Kancelarji Ogolnej). The document courses were attended by both petty officer and officer students.
 - Hydrographic service course for enlisted men and officers (Szkola Hydrograficzna).
 - Telephone operators course (Kurs Telefoniczny), about a four-months course. There were one or two companies of students attending this course. This school was also in charge of maintenance and repair of Navy-operated telephone installations.
 - Radiomen's course (Kurs Radio Telegrafistow). Course lasted about nine months. There was one company of students.
 - Yeomen's course (Kurs Administracyjny).
 - Coastal artillery (Kurs Artylerji Nadbrzeznej).
 - h. Drivers' course (Kurs Szoferow).
 - Underwater divers' course (Kurs Nurkow) about a six-months course. There was one company of students.
- 17. A submarine school did not exist because of the lack of readyfor-operation submarines. The torpedo test station in Oksywie was still being reconstructed from war damage.